

Application No. 09/912,670

Filed: July 23, 2001

TC Art Unit: 1644

Confirmation No.: 6394

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

1 - 23 (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) A method for down-regulating a T cell-mediated autoimmune response in an affected tissue site in an animal, comprising locally injecting genetic material for expressing  $\alpha$ -MSH, into or near the autoimmune-diseased tissue site.

25 - 41 (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the animal is a human, a mouse, a rat, a dog, a cat, a rabbit or a horse.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the autoimmune-diseased tissue site is an eye of the animal.